

In re Patent Application of
CLARKE ET AL.
Serial No. 10/777,958
Filed: 2/12/04

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination of the present application. To advance prosecution, independent Claims 1, 12, 18, 24, and 29 have been amended to further define the renderer module. No new matter has been added. The patentability of the claims is discussed below.

I. The Claimed Invention

The invention, as recited in amended independent Claim 1, for example, is directed to a communications system which includes a plurality of data storage devices each using at least one of a plurality of different operating protocols, and a plurality of mobile wireless communications devices for accessing the plurality of data storage devices. Each mobile wireless communications device also uses at least one of the plurality of different operating protocols. The system further includes a protocol interface device. In particular, the protocol interface device includes a protocol engine module for communicating with the plurality of data storage devices using respective operating protocols, and a front-end proxy module coupled to the protocol engine.

The front-end proxy module includes a respective proxy module for communicating with the plurality of mobile wireless communications devices using each different operating protocol, and at least one common core service module connected to the proxy modules. The at least one common core service module includes a renderer module for cooperating with the proxy modules to format data for the plurality of mobile wireless

communications devices. The renderer module is also selectively configurable to define and implement an interface between the proxy modules and the mobile wireless communications devices for supporting a new different operating protocol. Advantageously, the renderer module allows new mobile wireless communications devices functionality and new services or operating protocols to be easily supported.

Amended independent Claim 12 is directed to a protocol interface device of independent Claim 1. Amended independent Claim 18 is directed to protocol interface device for interfacing a plurality of communications devices. Amended independent Claim 24 is directed to a related method, and amended independent Claim 29 is directed to a computer-readable medium. Independent Claims 12, 18, 24, and 29 have been amended similar to amended independent Claim 1.

II. The Claims Are Patentable

The present application includes independent Claims 1, 12, 18, and 24. The Examiner rejected the independent claims based upon U.S. Published Patent Application Serial No. 2006/0168095 to Sharma et al. Sharma et al. is directed to a system and method for multi-modal information delivery. The method includes receiving a first user request at a browser module operative in accordance with a first protocol applicable to a first mode of information delivery. The method further includes generating a browsing request in response to the first user request, wherein the browsing request identifies information available within a network. Multi-modal content is

then created on the basis of the information identified by the browsing request and provided to the browser module. The multi-modal content is formatted in compliance with the first protocol and incorporates a reference to content formatted in accordance with a second protocol applicable to a second mode of information delivery.

Independent Claims 1, 12, 18, 24, and 29 have been amended to recite that the renderer module is selectively configurable to define and implement an interface between the proxy modules and the mobile wireless communications devices for supporting a new different operating protocol. Applicants submit that Sharma et al. fails to disclose at least one common core service module connected to the proxy modules and comprising a renderer module for cooperating with the proxy modules to format data for the plurality of mobile wireless communications devices, and wherein the renderer module is selectively configurable to define and implement an interface between the proxy modules and the mobile wireless communications devices for supporting a new different operating protocol. As noted above, the renderer module advantageously allows new mobile wireless communications devices functionality and new services or operating protocols to be easily supported.

Instead, Sharma et al. discloses a voice browser **110** that executes dialogues with the subscriber unit **102** using a known speech mark-up language, for example VoiceXML. (See Paragraph 0030). The voice browser **110**, when a request has been determined to be formatted inconsistently with the target web server, sends a request to the conversion server **150**. The

conversion server **150** replies with "the protocol of the voice browser." (Emphasis Added) (See Paragraph 0031). Data from the conversion server "compliant with the protocol of the voice browser" is then used as the basis for carrying out a dialogue with the user of the subscriber unit. (Emphasis Added). (See Paragraph 0031). The subscriber unit **102** communicates by sending "DTMF tones to, and receives audio output from the voice browser **110**." Indeed, there is nothing in Sharma et al. that teaches or suggests at least one common core service module connected to the proxy modules and comprising a renderer module for cooperating with the proxy modules to format data for the plurality of mobile wireless communications devices, and wherein the renderer module is selectively configured to define and implement an interface between the proxy modules and the mobile wireless communications devices for supporting a new different operating protocol. Accordingly, amended independent Claims 1, 12, 18, 24, and 29 are patentable.

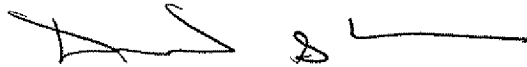
It is submitted that amended independent Claims 1, 12, 18, 24, and 29 are patentable over the prior art. Their respective dependent claims, which recite yet further distinguishing features, are also patentable over the prior art and require no further discussion herein.

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III. Conclusion

In view of the amendments and arguments presented above, it is submitted that all of the claims are patentable. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested in due course. Should any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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